

Tolling and Pricing Opportunities

Under the Federal-aid Highway Program

Dan Mathis, P.E.
Division Administrator
FHWA Washington Division

James Colyar, P.E.
ITS/Mobility Engineer
FHWA Washington Division

Patty Rubstello, P.E.
Tolling and Systems Development Engineer
WSDOT Urban Corridors Office

Washington State Transportation Commission
December 17, 2008

Background

- 23 USC Section 301 generally prohibits the imposition of tolls on federal-aid highways
- Applies to all federal-aid highways, not just Interstates

SAFETEA-LU

- In 2005, SAFETEA-LU provided additional flexibility for allowing tolling on federal-aid facilities
 - To finance construction/reconstruction
 - To promote efficient use of highways
 - To reduce traffic congestion
 - To improve air quality

U.S. DOT Congestion Initiative

- In 2006, U.S. DOT announced a National Strategy to Reduce Congestion
- New emphasis on Congestion Pricing as key element to reducing urban congestion
 - Failure to properly price travel on highways is a root cause of congestion
 - Congestion pricing brings supply and demand into alignment
- Urban Partnership Agreements – Tolling is key component
 - Miami, Minneapolis, San Francisco, Seattle

Congestion Pricing – The Options

**HOV to HOT
Conversion
(Use Excess
Capacity)**

Seattle (SR 167)

Minneapolis – St. Paul

San Diego

Denver

Houston

**Variably or
Dynamically
Priced Lanes
(New)**

Miami

**Variably or
Dynamically
Priced Lanes
(Existing)**

***Seattle
(SR 520 & I-90?)***

**Cordon
or
Area
Pricing**

**Region -
Wide
Charges**

***Studies in
Seattle, Oregon***

Federal Tolling and Pricing Programs



Express Lanes Demonstration Program
(SAFETEA-LU 1604)



HOV Facilities
(SAFETEA-LU 1121, 23 USC 166)



Value Pricing Pilot Program (SAFETEA-LU 1604)



Interstate System Construction Toll Pilot Program
(SAFETEA-LU 1604)



Interstate System Reconstruction & Rehabilitation Pilot
Program (TEA-21 1216b)



Section 129 Toll Agreements (23 USC 129)

Requirements for Tolling Programs

- Participation requirements
 - # Slots available, participation deadlines
- Eligibility requirements
 - Project intent, new vs. existing facility
- Tolling requirements
 - HOV exemptions, toll collection, revenue restrictions
- Reporting requirements

Tolling Requirements Matrix



Federal Tolling Programs and Provisions Decision Support Guidance

Issues/Federal Requirements	Value Pricing Pilot Program (Sec. 1012(b) of ISTEA, as amended)	Express Lanes Demonstration Program (Sec. 1604(b) of SAFETEA-LU)	Interstate Construction Toll Pilot (Sec. 1604(c) of SAFETEA-LU)	Interstate Rehab & Reconstruction (Sec. 1216(b) of TEA-21)	HOV Facilities (Includes HOT Lanes) 23 U.S.C. 166	23 U.S.C. Section 129 Section 129 Agreements
Funding (Discretionary funding for Feasibility, Pre-Implementation, Implementation, and Evaluation)	\$12 mil for each of the FYs 2006-2009 (\$3 mil shall be available only for projects that do not involve highway tolls) <i>Projects may not be funded for a period longer than 3 years.</i>	None	None	None	None	None
State Participation Restrictions	Only 15 States may participate <i>14 currently participating: CA, CO, FL, GA, IL, MD, MN, NC, NJ, OR, PA, TX, VA, WA</i>	15 demonstration projects eligible in any state	3 facilities on the Interstate eligible *Compact of states are eligible	3 facilities on the Interstate eligible Each facility must be located in a different state <i>2 facilities currently participating: VA, MO</i>	Unlimited participation	Unlimited participation
Deadlines for Participation	Expressions of Interest- <i>August 1</i> each year for the subsequent fiscal year. Formal application- <i>October 1</i> in the fiscal year where funds are requested.	September 30, 2008	August 10, 2015	None	None	None

Process for Requesting Federal Tolling Authority



Submit an “Expression of Interest” to the FHWA Tolling & Pricing Team

- Team coordinates and assists, does not approve



Work with the Tolling & Pricing Team to identify most appropriate program



Submit formal application for tolling authority to appropriate FHWA program office



Execute formal tolling agreement

The “Expression of Interest” Form

- Description of facility to be tolled
 - Whether construction is involved
 - Whether HOV lanes exist
- Timetable to enact tolling
- Expressions of support by public officials
- Plan for implementing tolls
- Reasons for implementing tolls
- Description of private entities involved
- Description of agencies responsible for operating, maintaining, and enforcing

Resources on Tolling Opportunities

- FHWA Tolling and Pricing Briefing Papers

- Executive Summary
- Summary of Opportunities and Process

- FHWA Tolling and Pricing Website

- http://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/tolling_pricing/index.htm

- FHWA Tolling and Pricing Team

- Contact: Wayne Berman, Wayne.Berman@dot.gov



I-90 Expression of Interest

- ESHB3096 required WSDOT to “determine the necessary actions for receiving federal authorization to toll the Interstate 90”
- September 2008, WSDOT submitted an expression of interest to FHWA
- Options included full road tolling and HOT lanes



Questions/Comments?